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CIA chief says Rhodesia faces massacre if Kissinger bid fails

Washington (AP)—George Bush, the director of the Central Intelligence Agency, said yesterday that intelligence reports indicate there could be a mass slaughter in Rhodesia if the Kissinger mission in southern Africa fails.

Mr. Bush, appearing on the ABC program Issues and Answers, said intelligence reports about Rhodesia showed that "the status quo appears to be intolerable." He added, "Unless there is a political solution, there's a serious situation in which you could have a mass slaughter of the people in Rhodesia."

"This is more than a guerrilla war situation," he said, and he predicted an effort by "outside-backed blacks" to take over.

Asked whether he meant there would be intervention by black African nations, he replied, "Clearly. That is what I think is the alternative to a political solution."

Asked if racial war could break out, Mr. Bush said, "I think the situation in

Rhodesia is that critical. . . . There is a certain deterioration that could be very serious."

As for the situation in neighboring South Africa, Mr. Bush said, "Rhodesia's on the front burner and then South Africa's on the next two burners. This is a matter that should be addressed by [Henry A. Kissinger] the Secretary of State."

Mr. Bush also said it seems unlikely any single person will succeed Chairman Mao Tse-tung in China. The Communist party chief died September 9.

"He was a unique figure," said Mr. Bush, former head of the U.S. liaison office in Peking.

Asked about reports of unrest in China, Mr. Bush said, "The government appears to be firmly in control. I don't see widespread unrest in China."

He said he foresaw no major changes in U.S.-China relations because of Mr. Mao's death nor "any significant change in China's relation to the Soviet Union."



AP

GEORGE BUSH